

Remarks

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the rejection of the claims in view of the above amendments and the remarks set forth below. Claims 1-48 remain in the application. Claims 9-12 remain unchanged. Claims 1-8 and 13-15 are amended. Claims 16-48 are new.

Claim Objections

Claims 1-48 were objected to as not being compliant with 37 CFR 1.173(b) since the text of deleted matter in claims 1-8 and 13-15 was not shown in brackets. In response to the objection, claims 1-8 and 13-15 have been amended such that deleted text is shown in brackets. Applicant respectfully requests that the objection to the claims be withdrawn.

Claim Rejections

Claims 1-48 were rejected as being based upon a defective reissue with amended claims filed on July 19, 2004 under 35U.S.C. 251 since the oath/declaration contained defects. In response to the rejection, a new declaration is submitted herewith. Applicant respectfully submits that the rejection is overcome.